Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, Mr. Verl K. Thomson, with the exception of two brief periods in Illinois and Michigan, has been a life-long resident of South Dakota; and,

WHEREAS, He helped pioneer radio in South Dakota, beginning as a student at Washington High School in Sioux Falls and continuing with a career that would span more than 60 years; and,

WHEREAS, He progressed up the ladder of success from announcer to program director to station owner, putting his station (KISD) on the air on May 6, 1948; and,

WHEREAS, He sold KISD in 1966 with the intent to retire, only to emerge into a whole new career with the South Dakota Broadcasters Association; and,

WHEREAS, He accepted the job of executive director, a part-time position that would grow with more and more responsibilities, arranging meetings and conventions to help state broadcasters become more knowledgable and better equipped to serve the public; and,

WHEREAS, He published a monthly newsletter to keep the membership informed, with suggestions and answers to problems within the industry; and,

WHEREAS, He served as the liaison between the broadcasters and the South Dakota Legislature in Pierre, where he was especially successful in developing warm relationships with government officials and staff, and lobbying for the protection of free speech; and,

WHEREAS, He was the first Hall of Fame recipient, the highest honor awarded to a state broadcaster:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE S. MICKELSON, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November 19, 1987, as

VERL K. THOMSON DAY

in South Dakota, and I wish him continued success.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirteenth Day of November, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Seven

GEORGE S. MICKELSON, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

JOYCE HAZELTINE, SECRETARY OF STATE